



# NEWS RELEASE

## Rural Development

3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302 • <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/la>

---

Release No.: 04232003-2

**Contact:** Holly L. Martien, (318) 473-7917  
[holly.martien@la.usda.gov](mailto:holly.martien@la.usda.gov)

### **GOVERNOR FOSTER AND SENATOR BREAUX JOIN USDA OFFICIALS TO PRESENT \$5.8 MILLION TO THE CITY OF KAPLAN**

BATON ROUGE, April 23, 2003 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development and Louisiana Office of Community Development observed Earth Day today by presenting millions of dollars in loan and grant funds to the City of Kaplan to improve their sewer system.

Governor Mike Foster, Senator John Breaux, and Division of Administration Commissioner Mark Drennen joined Hilda G. Legg, Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service-Washington, DC, and Michael B. Taylor Rural Development State Director to present \$5.8 million in loan and grant funds to Kaplan Mayor Levi Schexnider—\$4.8 million in Rural Development loan and grant funds and \$1 million in Louisiana Community Development Block Grant funds.

“This construction will improve sewer service to 2,019 residential users, 165 commercial users, and seven industrial users,” said Taylor. “The improved sewer system will not only enhance the quality of life for the people in this area, it will help protect the environment.”

On Earth Day, people around the world focus their efforts on important environmental issues. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development recognizes Earth Day by awarding funding to rural water and wastewater community infrastructure projects across the nation. This year, Rural Development will fund 42 rural Earth Day projects in 29 states, totaling over \$104 million.

“The loan and grant funds provided by Rural Development and the State of Louisiana will make improving the environment achievable and affordable for Kaplan,” said Taylor.

-more-

**GOVERNOR FOSTER AND SENATOR BREAUX  
JOIN USDA OFFICIALS TO PRESENT \$5.8 MILLION  
TO THE CITY OF KAPLAN**

**4/23/03**

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices, located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development's web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender, provider, and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9140.

#